

Received
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MSHA/OSRV

-----Original Message-----

From: S.J. Jung [mailto:sjung@uidaho.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2002 12:01 PM
To: comments@msha.gov
Subject: RE: MSHA Gathering Information About Asbestos Issues

Dear Madam/Sir

Mining is one of many industries in the U.S. that needs improvements in its working environment. Underground mining environments are usually hot, humid, dark, noisy, dusty, and confined. The confined nature of the environment and the size and power of the mechanized mining equipment are significant factors that contribute to the serious loss of health experienced by career miners. Miners are constantly exposed to dust from blasting, mechanized equipment, and others sources because of its working environment.

New regulation/rule will significantly reduce occupational health risk among miners, however, it will not entirely eliminate it. Currently, with some mining equipments, it is not technically or economically feasible to protect miners' health to within the permissible level. To prevent miners' health risk, protection against dust, and noise must be done by improving a hard hat. Better protection gear (hardhat) needs to be designed. A new concept of hardhat can be developed to protect against above risk factors. If you need further input from me, please inform me. I am more than happy to assist you.

Thanks for opportunities.

Sincerely yours,
SJ Jung, Associate Professor
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